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REMARKS

This merely places the claims in better formal conditions of U.S. practice.

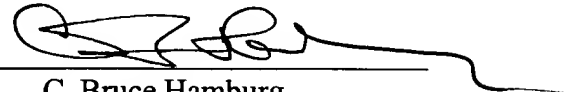
Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX I

**AMENDED CLAIMS WITH AMENDMENTS INDICATED THEREIN
BY BRACKETS AND UNDERLINING**

1. (Amended) Transdermal therapeutic system [having] comprising a backing layer, at least one nicotine-containing layer [ore] or zone, [which may have pressure-sensitive adhesive properties, as well as a removable protective layer, characterized by a content of] and at least one essential oil extracted from a mint species[,] or at least one monoterpene ketone contained in [these] said essential oils.

2. (Amended) Transdermal therapeutic system according to claim 1, [characterized in that] wherein the monoterpene ketone is [one] selected from the group consisting of carvone, dihydrocarvone, menthone, isopulegone, isomenthone, neomenthone, neoisomenthone [or] and piperitone.

3. (Amended) Transdermal therapeutic system according to claim 2, [characterized in that] wherein the monoterpene [ketones are used as] ketone is a pure [enantiomers] enantiomer or [mixtures thereof] a mixture of enantiomers.

4. (Amended) Transdermal therapeutic system according to claim 1, [characterized in that] wherein the essential oil is spearmint oil [(Oleum Menthae crispae)].

5. (Twice Amended) Transdermal therapeutic system according to any one of claims 1-4, wherein the content of the at least one monoterpene ketone in the nicotine-containing [matrix] layer or zone is 0.1 to 5.0%-wt.

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6. (Amended) Process for masking an unpleasant smell, caused by [a content] the presence of nicotine, of a nicotine-containing transdermal therapeutic system, [characterized in that] comprising adding at least one [odour-improving] odor- improving substance [is added] to the nicotine-containing transdermal therapeutic system, said substance being an essential oil extracted from a mint species[,] or [being] a monoterpene ketone contained in an essential oil extracted from a mint species.

7. (Amended) Process according to claim 6, [characterized in that] wherein the essential oil is peppermint oil [(Oleum Menthae crispae)].

8. (Amended) Process according to claim 6, [characterized in that] wherein the monoterpene ketone is [one] selected from the group consisting of carvone, dihydrocarvone, menthone, isopulegone, isomenthone, neomenthone, neoisomenthone [or] and piperitone.

9. (Amended) Process according to claim 8, [characterized in that] wherein the at least one monoterpene [ketone(s) are added to] ketone is added to the nicotine-containing [matrix preferably in a concentration of] layer or zone in a quarterly constituting 0.1 to 5.0%-wt[, particularly preferred in a concentration of 0.5 to 2%-wt.] of said layer or zone.